

ABSTRACT

A method for automatically generating network address translation (NAT) data to enable a private host having a private IP address to communicate with a public host having a first public IP address. The method includes providing automated NAT provision software which, responsive to a message initiated by one of the private host and the public host, consults a security policy associated with the private host to determine whether the communication between the private host and the public host is permissible. The method further includes provisioning automatically using the software and without a human operator intervention after the consulting, if the consulting indicates that the communication between the private host and the public host is permissible, in a database a second public IP address for address translation between the private IP address and the second public IP address.